

Message Text

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16

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

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FM U S MISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2433

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO AORG

SUBJECT: ILO GOVERNING BODY ELECTIONS AT JUNE 1975 ILO CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 091263

PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL, PERSONS AND QUACKENBUSH

1. BLANCHARD BELIEVES HOLDING EARLY ELECTIONS "DIFFICULT BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE." HE COMMENTS ON PLO AND ISRAELI RESOLUTION WILL BE REPORTED SEPTEL.

2. I RAISED QUESTION OF EARLY ELECTIONS WITH DG FRIDAY AFTERNOON. BLANCHARD SAID HE HAD ALREADY CONSULTED WITH BERGENSTROM OF EMPLOYERS AND WOULD TALK TO JOE MORRIS (WHO IS IN GENEVA FOR WP ON STRUCTURE) THIS WEEK TO SEEK HIS COOPERATION TOO. HOWEVER, BLANCHARD'S FIRST REACTION TO MONDAY (JUNE 9) WAS SKEPTICAL. HE THOUGHT TRADITION OF THURSDAY ELECTIONS, DESIRE BY MANY COUNTRIES FOR FINAL HORSE-TRADING ON CANDIDATES, FACT THAT TUESDAY (JUNE 10) WOULD BE DEVOTED TO SPEECH BY AND LUNCH FOR PRIME MINISTER OF SRI LANKA, AND NEED FOR 24 HOUR NOTICE OF ELECTIONS (ARTICLE 51 OF STANDING ORDERS) ALL SUGGESTED EARLIEST DATE PRACTICABLE WAS WEDNESDAY (JUNE 11). WHEN I MENTIONED THAT US WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS AS WELL AS USG WOULD ACTIVELY LOBBY FOR JUNE 9, HE RECONSIDERED. DDG BOLIN POINTED OUT THAT ELECTIONS ANNOUNCEMENT UNDER ARTICLE 51 COULD BE MADE AT PLENARY

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SESSION PLANNED FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 7. BLANCHARD NOTED

TUESDAY AFTERNOON WAS A POSSIBILITY AND SUMMED UP BY SAYING,
MONDAY (JUNE 9) "WAS DIFFICULT BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE" AND THAT
HE WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD TO HELP US BRING THIS ABOUT.

3. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO INFORM OTHER POSTS OF US
DESIRE FOR JUNE 9 ELECTION SO THAT THEY CAN RAISE IT WITH
CONFERENCE DELEGATIONS BEFORE THEY DEPART FOR GENEVA.DALE

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